

Appendix A

Actions on MDPH Recommendations, Whitin Intermediate School, Uxbridge, MA

The following is a status report of action(s) taken on MDPH recommendations (**in bold**) based on reports from town officials, school maintenance staff, documents, photographs and MDPH staff observations.

- **Operate both supply and exhaust ventilation continuously during periods of school occupancy independent of classroom thermostat control.**

Action: All ventilation components were operating during the reassessment, with the exception of the univent in the locker room (Table 1).

- **Examine each univent for function. Survey classrooms for univent function to ascertain if an adequate air supply exists for each room. Operate univents while classrooms are occupied.**

Action: Although the majority of univents were operating, it was not clear whether univents had been examined/calibrated by an HVAC engineering firm to ensure proper function.

- **Continue with plans to repair rooftop exhaust motor. Consider contacting an HVAC engineering firm for advice to improve exhaust ventilation.**

Action: All exhaust vents were operating during the reassessment.

- **Remove all blockages from univents and exhaust vents.**

Action: Univents and exhaust vents were still found obstructed by various items throughout the building (Pictures A-1 through A-3).

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- **Replace/repair any remaining water-stained ceiling tiles and building materials. Examine the area above and around these areas for mold growth. Disinfect areas of water leaks with an appropriate antimicrobial.**
Action: Ceiling tile replacement is on-going; however, water damaged ceiling tiles were observed in a number of areas throughout the WMS (Picture A-4/Table 1).
- **Keep windows closed during hot, humid weather to maintain indoor temperatures and avoid condensation problems.**
Action: One classroom was observed to have windows open while air conditioning was operating (Table 1).
- **Repair/replace seals around window frames to prevent water penetration.**
Action: Windows seals were not replaced/repared in several areas as evidenced by condensation between window panes (Pictures A-5 and A-6).
- **Move plants away from univents in classrooms. Ensure all plants are equipped with drip pans. Examine drip pans for mold growth and disinfect areas of water leaks with an appropriate antimicrobial where necessary. Consider reducing the number of plants.**
Action: Plants were still observed on univents in classrooms (A-1 and A-7).
- **Seal holes in exterior walls to prevent water intrusion.**
Action: Holes in exterior walls were not sealed (Picture A-8).
- **Seal areas around sinks to prevent water-damage to the interior of cabinets and adjacent wallboard. Inspect wallboard for water-damage and mold/mildew growth, repair/ replace as necessary. Disinfect areas with an appropriate antimicrobial, as needed.**

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Action: A few classrooms need further attention around sinks to prevent further water damage.

- **Store cleaning products properly and out of reach of students. Store flammables in a flameproof cabinet.**

Action: Some classrooms still have improperly stored and unlabeled spray bottles (Picture A-9).

- **Clean univent air diffusers and exhaust vents periodically of accumulated dust.**

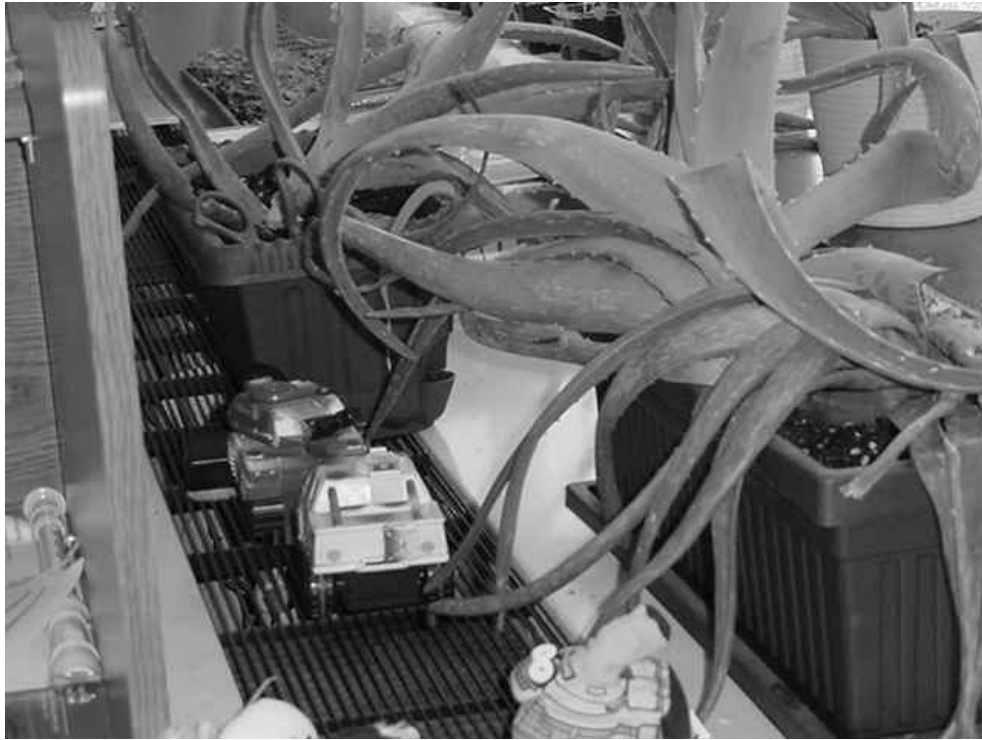
Action: Dusty supply and exhaust vents were observed in a number of areas throughout the school.

- **Refrain from using strong scented materials (e.g., air fresheners) in classrooms.**

Action: Air deodorizers were in use during the reassessment (Picture A-10).

Appendix A

Picture A-1



Plants and Other Items on Univent

Picture A-2



Items on Univent

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Picture A-3



Wall-Mounted Exhaust Vent Obstructed by Various Items

Picture A-4



Water Damaged Ceiling Tiles

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Picture A-5



Condensation between Window Panes

Picture A-6



Condensation between Window Panes

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Picture A-7



Flowering Plant on Univent

Picture A-8



Utility Hole in Exterior Wall

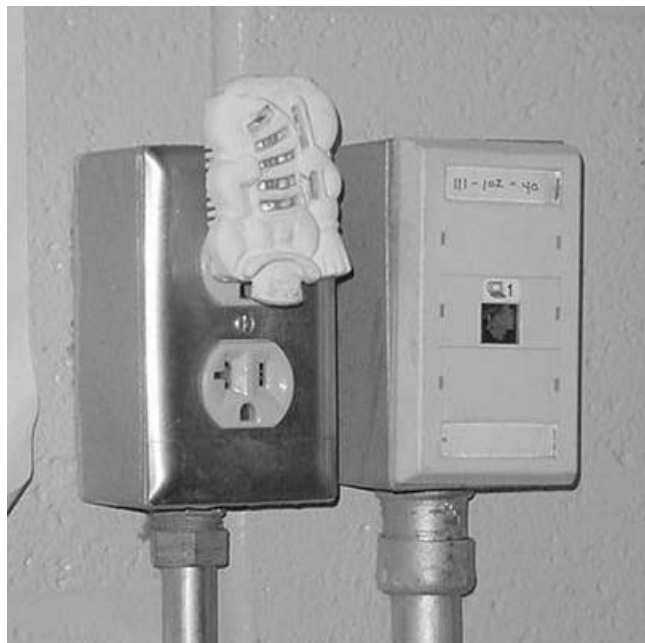
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Picture A-9



Unlabelled Spray Bottle in Classroom

Picture A-10



Plug-in Air Freshener